How is SAP in terms of career growth?

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Abstract

SAP stands for System Applications and Products in Data Processing. SAP is one of the world's leading producers of software for the management of business processes and assists organizations of all sizes to manage their financials, logistics, human resources, and other business areas.

1. Introduction

SAP is a market leader in providing ERP (Enterprise Resource and Planning) solutions and services towards better work and data management in organizations across industries. SAP was founded in 1972 in **Walldorf**, Germany. It stands for Systems, Applications and Products in Data Processing. Over the years, it has grown and evolved to become one of the two biggest players in the ERP software market and the world premier provider of client / server business solutions for which it is so well known today.

According to its 2016 corporate fact sheet, SAP serves more than **335,000 customers** in 180 countries, of which 80% are small- and- medium sized organizations. SAP is a **German multinational software company** whose products allows businesses to track customer and business interactions and builds a strong technical support for organization by helping in better management of customer needs and helping towards long term and profitable customer relationships. Customer satisfaction is one of the common aims for all business organizations and SAP is especially well-known for its data management programs to achieve the same.
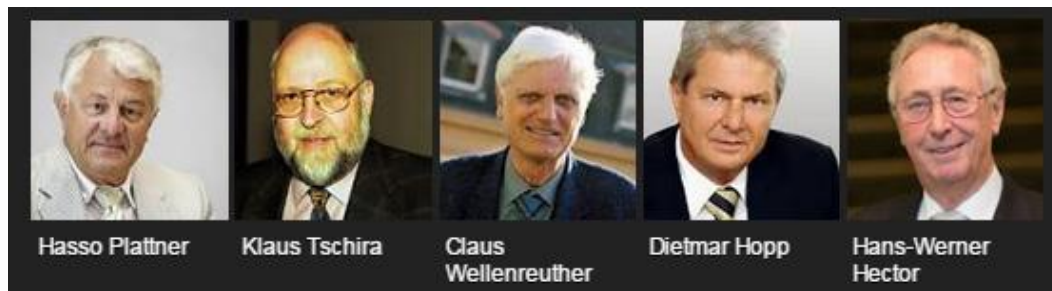
2. What is SAP?

SAP is at the centre of **today's technology revolution**. The market leader in enterprise application software, SAP helps organizations fight the damaging effects of complexity, generate new opportunities for innovation and growth, and stay ahead of the competition to become the top-notch in terms of the largest vendors of ERP and other enterprise applications.

3. History of SAP

SAP was started in 1972 by five former **IBM employees** with a vision of creating standard application software for the business potential of technology and real-time business processing to continually transform the world of information technology. Since its inception SAP has issued

several releases, such as SAP R/1, SAP R/2, and SAP R/3. The R in these releases stands for "Real-Time" data processing. The 3 in the R/3 stands for three-tier client-server architecture.

SAP's Founding Fathers

4. Features of SAP

- Monitors Human Costs
- Documents Progress of Process
- Process of Invoices
- Records External Employee's Services
- Confirms Service Management Orders
- Maintains Planning and Progress

SAP Stands For:

In German:

- Systeme
- Anwendungen,
- Produkte in der Datenverarbeitung

In English:

- Systems
- Applications and
- Products in Data Processing

- Collects Data Plans and Sheets

5. Technical details

ERP

SAP ERP incorporates the **key business functions** of an organization. The ERP package is designed to support and integrate almost every functional area of a business process such as procurement of goods and services, sale and distribution, finance, accountings, human resource, manufacturing, production planning, logistics and warehouse management. The most recent Enhancement Package (EHP8) for **SAP ERP 6.0** was released in 2016.

SAP R/3

It is client / server version of the software and it is 3-tier architecture which includes 3 layers installed in 3 separate servers. The 3 layers are:
- **Presentation Layer:** that contains the software components that make up the SAPGUI.
- **Application Layer:** that consists of one or more application servers and a message server.
- **Data Base layer:** that consists of a central database system containing all of the data in the R/3.
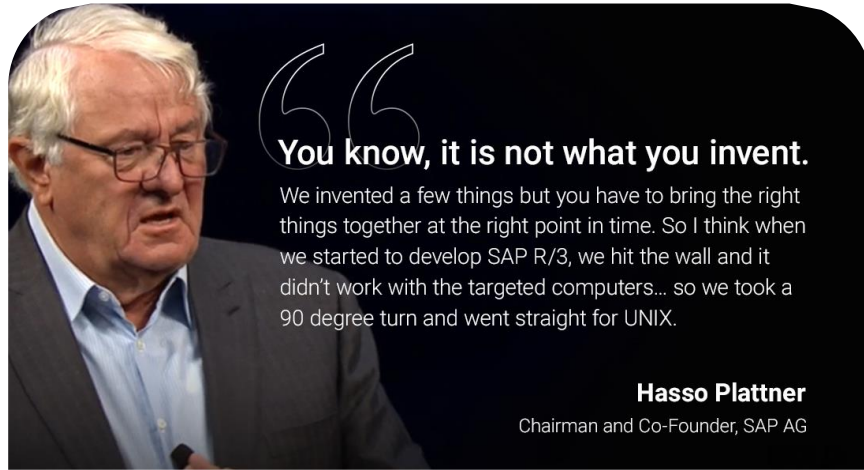
SAP R/2

It is a main frame version of software and it is 2-tier architecture in which 3 layers are installed in 2 separate servers.

SAP R/1

It is the first version and it is one-tier architecture in which 3 layers are installed in one server.

6. Functional modules of SAP include:

- FICO - Finance & Control
- PP - Production Planning
- MM - Material management
- SD - Sales & distribution
- HR - Human resource
- CRM - Customer Relationship Management

You know, it is not what you invent.

We invented a few things but you have to bring the right things together at the right point in time. So I think when we started to develop SAP R/3, we hit the wall and it didn't work with the targeted computers… so we took a 90 degree turn and went straight for UNIX.

Hasso Plattner
Chairman and Co-Founder, SAP AG

7. How is SAP in terms of career growth?

SAP provides a faster career growth whether it is functional or technical area, provided the candidate has good fundamental knowledge in his domain and a very sound knowledge of SAP. Certification in SAP can increase your job prospects. **Fortune 500 Firms** has implemented SAP R/3 & being successful because of its process integrations among the different organizational functionalities in real time data accessing under a single common database. There are various sub-modules of SAP (such as **Material Management** (MM), **Project System** (PS), **Sales and Distribution** (SD), **Advanced Planner and Optimizer** (APO), **Quality Management** (QM) etc.) and every module in SAP has its own demand and uniqueness and has opened up new job opportunities to execute on an aggressive acquisition strategy to fill the technology gaps. Owing to the various advantages, more and more organizations are moving towards adopting SAP to impact business in an important and far-reaching way.

Source of Information:

- https://www.wikipedia.org/
- https://www.google.com/